

Amendment: D5

Representative Erickson proposes the following amendment:

Department of Employment and Workforce

New

83.gip (DEW: GED Incentive Program) For Fiscal Year 2021-22, of the funds allocated to the Department of Employment and Workforce from the Department of Education GED Incentive Program \$1,500,000 shall be utilized as an incentive for individuals currently drawing unemployment benefits to obtain their GED or high school diploma. In order to be eligible the individual must have an active claim from any of the state or federal unemployment insurance programs and be a South Carolina resident who is at least nineteen years of age. The individual must certify to the department that they do not currently hold a GED or high school diploma from any state. They must also enroll in and complete the GED or high school diploma course work prior to June 1, 2022. The Department of Employment and Workforce shall enter into a data-sharing agreement with the Department of Education to cross match eligibility to ensure that participants do not currently hold a GED or high school diploma and to confirm that the individual enrolled in and completed the diploma process to obtain the GED or high school diploma. The Department of Employment and Workforce shall issue a one-time payment in the amount of \$500 to the individual upon confirmation from the Department of Education that the individual has successfully received the GED or diploma. These incentive payments shall be issued on a first come first serve basis based on completion date, until the funds from this program have been exhausted. Funds allocated for this incentive program may not be transferred or utilized for any other purpose. Unexpended funds shall be remitted to the General Fund at the end of the current fiscal year.